IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 2, 4, 10, and 17 and CANCEL claims 1 and 11-16, in accordance with the following:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The computer of claim 1,~~ A computer, comprising:

a main body;

a display rotatably connected to the main body;

a latch member movable between closed and release latching positions, wherein when the latch member is in the closed position the display is prevented from rotatably moving to an orientation allowing for viewing of the display by a user of the computer;

a latch switch generating a contact signal when the latch member is at the releasing position; and

a controller supplying electric power to the computer if the latch switch generates a contact signal,

wherein when the latch member is at an intermediate position between the closed and release positions the display is rotatably ~~moved~~ movable to the orientation allowing for viewing of the display without the latch switch generating the contact signal.

3. (Original) The computer of claim 2, further comprising a latch cover with a protrusion protruding in a transverse direction from a predetermined movement zone of the latch member, to come into contact with the protrusion when the latch member transitions from the closed position to the intermediate position between the closed and releasing positions.

4. (Currently Amended) The computer of claim ~~1~~2, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.

5. (Original) The computer of claim 2, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.

6. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 3, further comprising a main power switch provided on the main body, wherein the controller supplies electric power to the computer if one of a turn-on signal from the main power switch and the contact signal from the latch switch is generated.

7. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 4, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the computer if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the computer.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 5, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the computer if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the computer.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 6, wherein the controller cuts off electric power of the computer if the latch switch generates the contact signal while electric power is being supplied to the computer.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer of claim ~~1~~2, wherein when the display is latched to the main body, the display can be unlatched from the main body without the latch switch generating the contact signal.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The portable computer of claim 16~~, A portable computer, comprising:

a main body;

a display rotatably connected to the main body;

a latching portion provided in one of the main body and the display;

a latch member provided in the other one of the main body and the display, opposing the latching portion, and movable between a latching position, where the latch member is latched in the latching portion such that the display is prevented from opening, and a releasing position, where the latch member is released from the latching portion;

a latch switch adjacent to the latch member, such that the latch switch contacts the latch member and generates a contact signal when the latch member is at the releasing position; and

a controller supplying electric power to the computer if the latch switch generates the contact signal,

wherein when the latch member is at an intermediate position between the latching and release positions the display is released~~,~~ to be rotatably movable to an orientation allowing for viewing of the display~~,~~ without the latch switch generating the contact signal.